



The Red World
BIKKE



9784063805154



1929979005627

雑誌 42900-15

ISBN978-4-06-380515-4

C9979 ¥562E (0)

講談社

定価：本体562円(税別)

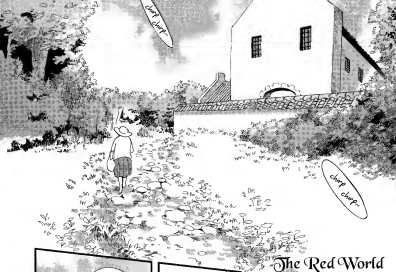








	5	♂
	55	♂
	93	♂
The Palm with Flowers	131	♂
After the After	168	♂



The Red World

AREN'T THEY PRETTY? LET'S
USE THEM TO
DECORATE THE
ROOMS LATER.

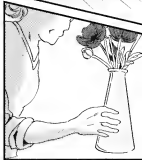
ONLY BOYS WILL
BE STAYING, YOU
KNOW. EVEN IF YOU
PUT FLOWERS IN
THEIR ROOMS, THEY
WON'T APPRECIATE
THEM.

OH, WERE
THESE FLOWERS
ALWAYS BLOOM-
ING HERE?

GOOD
MORNING,
YOU'RE UP
QUITE
EARLY.

WELL, TOMORROW
THIS PLACE WILL BE A
SUMMER CAMP. THE
ROOMS NEED CLEANING
AND THE RED SHEETS
NEED WASHING!
THERE'S JUST SO
MUCH TO DO.

The Red World



REGULUS!
THE AIR IN
THE COUNTRY
IS SO FRESH.

LOTS OF KIDS YOUR
AGE WILL BE THERE
DOING ALL SORTS OF
ACTIVITIES. I'M SURE
YOU'LL MAKE LOTS
OF FRIENDS.



I have no
interest in the
countryside, or
playing games
and eating
with kids. I
don't know.

I didn't want
to go to
summer
camp.



Since it's
summer vaca-
tion, I've been
forced to come
to this summer
camp in the
countryside.









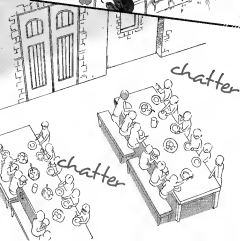
Living
roommates
is the worst.



BY THE WAY,
IT GETS COLD HERE
AT NIGHT, EVEN IN
THE SUMMER, SO
WE'RE NOT SUP-
POSED TO LEAVE THE
WINDOW OPEN.



throw



chatter

chatter



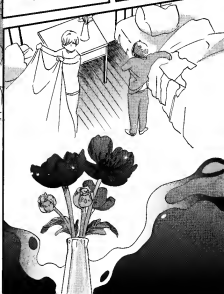
I hope this
summer
camp ends
quickly.

We painted the walls where we were staying.

The next day I was forced to volunteer to paint.



FOR SOME
REASON IT'S
ALL RED!



HEY, WHAT'RE YOU
PLAYING WITH OVER
HERE? WE'RE NOT
USING RED PAINT.
HAND IT OVER.

AA,
S-SORRY...

CLAKE

HERE.

HAHAHA!
THE RED NOSE
TOTALLY
SUITS YOU.

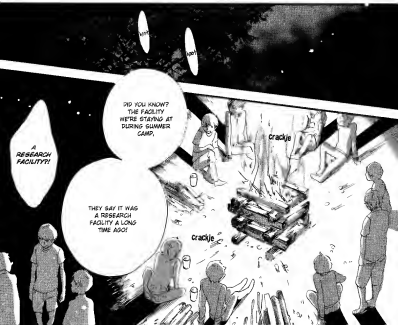
HEY!
WHAT'RE YOU
DOING?!

SIR, I DON'T
FEEL SO WELL.
COULD I GO
REST IN MY
ROOM?

WHAT'S
WRONG?

WE DON'T
HAVE ENOUGH
OVER HERE.

DO YOU HAVE
ENOUGH WHITE
PAINT?





WOW,
YOU'RE
SUCH A
COWARD,
MILAN.

IF YOU'RE
SCARED TO GO TO
THE BATHROOM, GET
YOUR ROOMMATE TO
TAG ALONG. I THINK
IT WAS, UH...



REGULUS.



PRISONERS OF
WAR WERE BEING
USED FOR HUMAN
EXPERIMENTS AND
STUFF.

YEAH. WHEN
OUR GRAND-
PARENTS WERE
YOUNG, DURING
THE WAR,

HEY, QUIT
TALKING
ABOUT THAT
STUFF...



IN STUPID
GHOST
STORIES.

I HAVE NO
INTEREST

YOU'RE FINE
WITH THAT,
RIGHT?



WHAT'RE YOU
DOING? THAT WAS
CLOSE...

THAT BRANCH IS
STILL WET SO
IT WON'T BURN
WELL.

ACK!

CRACKLE



NO, STUPID. TRY
CHECKING THAT
PRECIOUS
ENCYCLOPEDIA OF
YOURS.

AS LONG AS IT
BURNS, IT'S
ALL THE SAME,
ISN'T IT?



THAT TREE BRANCH
MAKES A NASTY SMELL
SO I WOULDN'T BURN IT
IF I WERE YOU.

...



THERE'S ONE
HAPPENING
NEXT YEAR
TOO, SO YOU
SHOULD
COME!

IN THAT
CASE, YOU
SHOULD COME
TO SUMMER
CAMP EVERY
YEAR!



THIS IS
MY FIRST
BARBECUE.

CALLING ME
STUPID?

HUNT!
SERIOUSLY?!
REALLY?!

IT'S
BECAUSE
I LIVE FAR
AWAY FROM
THE COUN-
TRYSIDE!



Cheer



HELL NO. ONE YEAR
OF THIS GROUP
ACTIVITY STUFF IN
THE COUNTRYSIDE IS
MORE THAN ENOUGH.







DON'T BE
STUPID! LOOK
CLOSELY.

IT'S JUST
PAINT...







I HEARD
THAT THE GUY
WHO CAUSED THE
COMMOTION YESTERDAY
WENT HOME ON THE
FIRST TRAIN OUT
THIS MORNING.

WAS HE
HOMERICK?

DOUBT IT.
IT'S ONLY THE
THIRD DAY, YOU
KNOW?

THERE WAS A
SMALL DISTURBANCE
YESTERDAY, BUT THE
SKETCHING WILL
TAKE PLACE AS
SCHEDULED.

YOU MAY SKETCH IN
THE FOREST OR THE
FIELD — ANYWHERE
IS FINE. JUST MAKE
SURE TO SKETCH
ONE PICTURE.

IF ANYONE STARTS
TO FEEL SICK,
TELL A TEACHER
IMMEDIATELY.

YOU KNOW,
I COULDN'T SLEEP
BECAUSE OF THAT
RUCKUS YESTERDAY.
I HAVE A HEADACHE.

ME
TOO—



REGULUS!
WHERE ARE
YOU GOING TO
SKETCH?



ANYWHERE
I WANT.

DO YOU
ALWAYS WALK
AROUND WITH
THAT ENCYCLO-
PEDIA?



Home
work?

I ALSO FEEL LIKE
THIS COULD TURN
INTO MY RESEARCH
PROJECT FOR
SUMMER VACATION
HOMEWORK



NOT ALWAYS.
I THOUGHT I'D
BRING IT IN CASE
I RAN INTO ANY
PLANTS I NEED
TO LOOK UP,

SINCE I DON'T
GET MANY
CHANCES TO
COME OUT TO
A SUPER RURAL
AREA.



IT SAYS YOU
CAN BOIL THEM
TO MAKE A CURE
FOR STOMACH-
ACHES...

THEY'RE NAMED
"TACHIMACHI"
BECAUSE THEY
WORK SO
QUICKLY.



TACHIMACHI?



UHM, THEY'RE
CALLED TACHIMACHI...
THEY'RE DICOTYLEDONS...
AND PERENNIAL
PLANTS...

DO YOU KNOW
WHAT THESE
FLOWERS ARE
CALLED?



EVEN MY GRANDMA
PROBABLY DOESN'T
KNOW THE OFFICIAL
NAMES.

BUT SHE KNOWS
ABOUT ALL THE HERBS
FROM THE FOREST AND
FIELDS AROUND HERE
AND HOW YOU
CAN COOK THEM OR
MAKE THEM INTO
MEDICINE.



AHH, THAT'S THE
PLANT YOU SAID
WOULD SMELL BAD
IF I BURNED IT...
YOU DON'T KNOW
ITS NAME?

WOW, THAT'S
WEIRD! OKAY,
WHAT ABOUT
THIS ONE?



NOPE.

DO YOU DON'T
KNOW ITS NAME,
BUT YOU KNOW WHAT
HAPPENS WHEN
YOU BURN IT?



COME TO MY
PLACE NEXT TIME
AND WE CAN
GATHER MUSH-
ROOMS.

BAA-CHIN WILL
SEPARATE THE ONES
WE CAN AND CAN'T EAT,
SO YOU DON'T HAVE
TO WORRY ABOUT
BEING POISONED TO
DEATH!

HAHAHA.

WELL, YOU COULD
SAY SHE'S GOT
YEARS OF EXPERI-
ENCE. A GRANDMA-
BASED ENCYCLO-
PEDIA!

YOUR
GRAND-
MOTHER
IS PRETTY
AMAZING.



WHY ARE THE
PAGES TORN
OUT AT THE
END?



OH
WELL.

THIS IS...



THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU SHOULDN'T
BE ABLE TO
FIND THEM
ANYWHERE.

THERE ARE THE
FLOWERS THAT
SHOULDN'T
BLOOM.



NOT
ANYWHERE?



NO
LONGER
EXIST.

ALL THE
FLOWERS
FROM THIS
PAGE ON-
WARDS



HEH...

SOMEONE'S
ALREADY
HERE.



TEAR



HEY, WHAT
ARE YOU
GUYS DOING—
FORGET ABOUT
SKETCHING?



THEY'RE
SO RED
AND RIPE!

MILAN, WE
FOUND BERRIES.
LOOK, THERE'S
SO MANY.



shudder

THEY JUST
SLATHERED
ON RED?!

THIS ONE
TOO... AND
THIS ONE
TOO?!

REGULUS,
RELAX,
YOU GUYS
EAT IT TOO.

WHAT THE — THESE
GUYS KNOW IT'S
NATURE SKETCHING,
RIGHT? DO THEY
EVEN CARE?

NO
IDEA...



I'M NOT SURE
WHAT TO MAKE
OF THIS.

THEY SAID IT
WAS A RED
FLOWER FIELD,
BUT...

ALL OF THEM
HANDING IN
THE SAME
THING...



HERE.



I WONDER
WHAT KIND OF
FLOWER THIS
IS.

WHO
KNOWS.

I DON'T
KNOW...

FLIP



WHAT DO YOU
THINK ABOUT
THE RED
DRAWINGS?

THERE WAS
DEFINITELY
SOMETHING OFF
ABOUT THEM,
RIGHT?



...REGULUS.

HM?



ARE YOU
SCARED?

YOU LISTEN
TO TOO
MANY GHOST
STORIES.



TH-



THAT
CAN'T BE
IT!

FWAP

I'M TELLING
YOU SOMETHING
WAS OFF. IT
WAS ALMOST
LIKE EVERYONE
WAS...



I DON'T
KNOW.

MAYBE
THEY JUST
WANTED TO
CUT COR-
NERS.



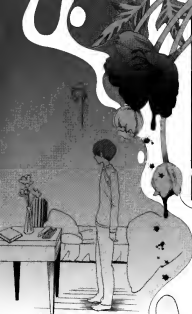
clack



THAT'S
NOT IT!

Whish

GO TO
SLEEP
ALREADY.







IF THERE'S AN
ACCIDENT OR SOME-
ONE GETS HURT,
CONTACT US IMMEDI-
ATELY ON OUR CELL
PHONES.



I'M HANDING
OUT MAPS,
SO FORM YOUR
OWN GROUPS
AND EXPLORE.



TODAY WE'RE
GOING ON A
TRIP TO THE
LAKE.



THOSE WHO
WANT TO SWIM
SHOULD BRING
THEIR SWIM-
SUITS.



THE
COUNSELORS
WILL DRIVE
TO THE LAKE,
WHERE THEY'LL
BE BUILDING
A CAMPFIRE
WHILE WAITING
FOR THE REST
OF YOU.



THIS
LOOKS
LIKE THE
RIGHT
WAY.



WE'RE
FOLLOWING
THE MAP, SO
WE SHOULD
BE OKAY.











Red

Red

A blood-
like red.



Red



I want
to see
red



I want
to see a
red

the
blood

Red

Red

Red

Blood

Red





WHAT THE
HELL IS
GOING ON...!



THIS FLOWER
DOESN'T BLOOM
ANYWHERE ANY-
MORE

THEY WERE
ALL KILLED BY
SOLDIERS, BECAUSE
THE FLOWER HAS
A POISON THAT
MANIPULATES
PEOPLE.

DID IT GO
INTO EGGS...
TINK...
SHUN?

YOU DREW THIS
PICTURE IN THE
ENCYCLOPEDIA,
DIDN'T YOU,
GRANDPA?

YES,
THAT'S
RIGHT,
REGULUS.

THIS RED
FLOWER IS
PRETTY.



...IT WAS IN
THE ENCYCLO-
PEDIA.

WHAT?

This privately printed
book is filled with
sketches of plants
that my grandfather
drew when he was
still young and in the
military.



REMEM-
BER...

Windows

He was the
person who
was always
drawing things
that were
apparently
not there.

WHAT WAS
IT CALLED...

It was the
name of the
book that
he had written.

CINCH,
REMEMBER...



THE RED
WORLD.



WHAT
ARE THE
SYMPTOMS?!
WHAT
HAPPENST?!



ANYTHING RED
SEEMS TO INDUCE
HYPNOSIS, OR
MAYBE IT'S A
HALLUCINOGENIC...

I DON'T KNOW
EITHER! BUT
THINKING ABOUT
THE FLOWER'S
NAME...

AND
CONSIDERING
EVERYONE'S
BEHAVIOR...

SMELLING THOSE
FLOWERS FOR AN
EXTENDED PERIOD OF
TIME... IT WOULD BE
HARMFUL TO THE
BODY. THAT'S ALL
THAT WAS WRITTEN.
THERE WEREN'T
MANY DETAILS...

I THINK
THAT'S
WHAT THEY
WERE
CALLED.

BUT I THINK
THE REASON
EVERYONE IS
ACTING
STRANGE

IS PROBABLY
BECAUSE OF
THOSE
FLOWERS...



...LET'S
BURN
THEM.

MY GRAND-
FATHER SAID
HE BURNED
THEM A
LONG TIME
AGO.

IT'S ALL
BECAUSE OF
THE FLOWERS
THAT EVERY-
BODY BECAME
LIKE THIS!

...ALL
RIGHT!

I CAN'T
DO IT ALL BY
MYSELF! GIVE
ME A HAND!

crack/e...

whoosh



ROAR



The Red World:

Until the budding stage, the flower is harmless. After blooming, however, humans who inhale the flower's scent fall into a strange trance.

Symptoms:

- Acquiring a strange attachment to the color red.
- At the final stage, the victim will possess a desire for blood and develop the urge to kill.
- At one time, researchers referred to this as "The Bloodsucking Flower" because of these characteristics.



During the war, human experiments were secretly conducted in hopes of engineering a flower that could manipulate people through its scent, and since then this flower had been multiplying in the remote countryside.

The adults could hardly believe what Milan and I told them. After that, a large-scale investigation team was sent to comb the neighboring forests and fields, disposing of every "Red Flower" down to the very last root.

When these inhuman experiments were brought to light, the news spread in a flash.

It's unknown as to how the news was leaked or how the flowers multiplied so rapidly. To this day the matter is still under investigation and no official announcement has been made.



ON THE FIRST DAY
OF CAMP, THERE
WERE FLOWERS
ARRANGED IN OUR
ROOM, RIGHT?



The summer
camp ended
up being cut
shorter than
planned.



THEY ALSO SAID
THAT THE FLOWER'S
SCENT ONLY WORKS
ON YOUNG PEOPLE
AROUND THEIR
TEENS OR EARLY
TWENTIES.



SO THAT'S WHY THE
CAMP COUNSELORS
AND THE OLD
CLEANING LADY
WEREN'T AFFECTED.

YOU START TO
DEVELOP SYMPTOMS
IF YOU SMELL THEM
FOR A LONG TIME...
THAT'S WHAT
THEY SAID.



APPARENTLY
ALL THE GUYS'
ROOMS WERE
SET UP LIKE
THAT.

THE OLD LADY IN
CHARGE OF CLEANING
THE PLACE SUPPOSEDLY
PUT THEM THERE TO
MAKE THE ROOM
LOOK NICER.





BACK THEN...
CREATING
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT...

I DON'T
EVEN WANT
TO THINK
ABOUT IT.

I WONDER
WHAT THEY
PLANNED TO
USE THEM
FOR...



THERE WAS
TALK ABOUT HOW
THIS TOWN HAD
SO MANY OLDER
PEOPLE. MAYBE
THAT'S WHY IT
TOOK SO LONG
TO DISCOVER
THEM.

MY GRANDPA
AND GRANDMA
SAID THOSE
WERE HORRIBLE
TIMES, TOO.

This encyclopedia
contains plants I raised
in the greenhouses
and gardens where I
once worked, as well
as vegetation from
the nearby hills and
fields.

Yes, if we were only
growing plants to eat
or to cure people,
then it would have
been fine.

I was also growing
things like medicinal
herbs for injured
soldiers.





DIDN'T YOU
SAY YOUR GRAND-
FATHER'S ENCYCLO-
PEDIA DIDN'T
HAVE THAT MANY
DETAILS?

EVEN SO, YOU
REALLY KNOW A
LOT ABOUT THAT
FLOWER.

AFTER
THE ORDEAL,
I CHECKED WHAT
THE NEWSPAPERS
WERE SAYING
AND STUFF.

WHILE I WAS
POKING AROUND,
I TRIED ASKING
THE INVESTIGATION
TEAM ABOUT IT, BUT
THEY WERE PRETTY
TIGHT-LIPPED.



OUR FRIENDS
WERE IN REALLY
BAD SHAPE
BECAUSE OF
ALL THIS...

OBVIOUSLY
YOU'D WANT
TO LOOK
INTO IT.



But seeing a field become dyed a
single shade of poisonous red was
a terrifying sight to behold.

MY GRANDFATHER
DIDN'T TELL ME MUCH
ABOUT HIS WARTIME
DAYS, AND I FELT LIKE
I WASN'T SUPPOSED
TO ASK ABOUT THEM
EITHER.



HEY! THOSE GUYS
GOT KINDA MESSED UP
FROM THE FLOWERS,
BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE
THEY CAN LEAVE THE
HOSPITAL RIGHT AWAY,
SO THAT'S GOOD.

NEXT TIME
LET'S GO
VISIT THEM
TOGETHER!

WELL...
ALL
RIGHT.



WE'RE LUCKY
THAT YOU WERE SO
CLUMSY ON THE FIRST
DAY OF CAMP AND
KNOCKED THAT VASE
OVER. WE ENDED UP
NOT SMELLING THE
FLOWERS!



THAT! THAT
WAS YOUR
FAULT FOR
BEING SO
RUSHY!



ARE YOU
THAT FORMAL
IN THE CITY?



BU... BUT I'D BE
CAUSING PROBLEMS
IF I JUST CAME BY
OUT OF THE BLUE...
AND I DON'T HAVE
ANY GIFTS OR ANY-
THING ON ME.



YOU STILL
HAVEN'T FOUND
ANY SAMPLES FOR
THAT RESEARCH
PROJECT YOU
WERE GOING TO
DO FOR SUMMER
HOMESCHOOL,
RIGHT?

HUH?!

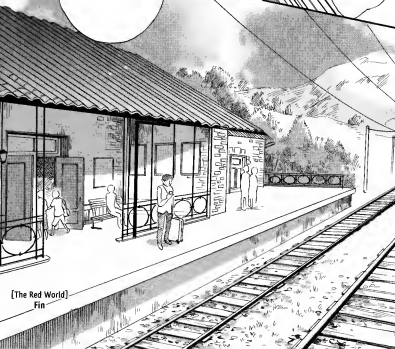
OH YEAH, SINCE
CAMP IS OVER EARLY,
YOU STILL HAVE FREE
TIME LEFT IN YOUR
VACATION, RIGHT?
COME OVER TO
MY PLACE.



OKAY.



C'MON, LET'S GO
GET YOUR TICKET
REFUNDED! THE
TRAIN'S GONNA
BE HERE IN FIVE
MINUTES.



[The Red World]

Fin

The Red World

Chapter 1

Raws Yuuko-san

TL Oh_no

Cleans krys

TS tobbow

PR Mika & blueberry

QC blueberry & Yuuko-san

Oh_no Pretty creepy story Part1, that make people want to eat each other. "shudder"
blueberry I wished the flowers were more softer, myself

The Story Time



I'D LIKE TO
BORROW THIS BOOK
FOR ANOTHER
WEEK.



SORRY,
THEO.

ACTUALLY,
TODAY IS THE
LAST DAY THIS
MOBILE LIBRARY
WILL BE OUT
HERE.



AND I DON'T
HAVE ANYONE
I CAN ASK TO
DO THIS IN MY
STEAD. WELL, IF
THE WAR ENDS
AND I'M STILL
ALIVE, I'LL
COME BY
AGAIN.



I'VE BEEN
DRAFTED, TOO,
YOU SEE. I'LL
BE ON THE
FRONT NEXT
WEEK.

WHATT?!



I WASN'T
READING IT. I
DON'T REALLY
EVEN LIKE TO
READ.

I WAS JUST
LISTENING TO
YOU READING
IT, THEO.

IT'S YOUR
VOICE THAT
I LIKE.



IT'S TOO BAD WE
COULDN'T READ
THAT BOOK TO THE
END. YOU REALLY
LIKED IT, TOO.



THEN I
SUPPOSE IT'S
GOING TO BE A
WHILE UNTIL YOU
FIND OUT WHAT
HAPPENS NEXT,
LYDIA.

HUH?



AFTER NEXT
MONTH, I'LL
BE A SOLDIER
AS WELL.



...THEO.



One moment, please

Hold on, this is XX telephone office.

Please give me the number and number of the person you'd like to call.

There is a call from Mr. ABC. We'll transfer you now.

beeeep

be beeeep

LAST WEEK, A LETTER CAME FROM MY BOYFRIEND ON THE FRONT.

I GOT ONE FROM MY HUSBAND, TOO.

POOR HER.

BUT APPARENTLY SARAH WAS INFORMED THAT HER COUSIN AND AFTER THAT HER BROTHER WAS KILLED IN ACTION



HOW ABOUT YOU, LYDIA? YOU HAVE A FANCEE, RIGHT



I'LL WAIT FOR YOU

THIS WAR WON'T GO ON FOR LONG.



LYDIA!
LYDIA!!

THEO'S
BACK!!



GOOD WORK,
EVERYONE..

Hehe, this is XX
telephone
office...

Thank
you
now.

I GOT A LETTER
SAYING I COULD
TAKE SOME TIME
OFF SOON.

SEE YOU
TOMORROW!



YES, BUT...
HE'S...

Really?!





I BORROWED
A BOOK FROM
THE LIBRARY
ON MY WAY
HOME FROM
WORK.

YOU KNOW,
THE ONE WE
STARTED A
WHILE BACK
BUT DIDN'T
GET TO
FINISH.



DO YOU
REMEMBER HOW
FAR YOU READ IN
THIS BOOK? SHOULD
I START FROM THE
BEGINNING?

flip



He came back
before the war
had ended.
He'd lost a leg
and his sight in
both eyes.



FROM THE
BEGINNING,
THEN.



IT'S GOING
TO BE A WHILE
BEFORE WE CAN GET
AN ARTIFICIAL LEG...
BUT EVEN WITH
THAT, HE WON'T BE
THE SAME AS HE
WAS BEFORE.

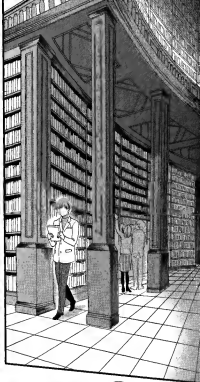
IT MUST BE
A LOT OF WORK
COMING HERE FOR
HIM EVERYDAY
AFTER WORK.

I'LL BE
BACK AGAIN
TOMORROW.

GOOD
NIGHT,
HELENA.

LYDIA,
IF IT'S
ABOUT THE
ENGAGE-
MENT...







YOU DO
HAVE A NICE
VOICE.

MAYBE
YOU'LL GET
SEDUCED BY
A CALLER,
TOO.

...THEO,
MY VOICE IS
YOURS ALONE.



THERE ARE
PEOPLE WHO
TALK TO THE
OPERATOR
ABOUT THINGS
OTHER THAN
THEIR BUSI-
NESS?



NOPE,
I'M LITTERLY
FINE.

YOU KNOW,
TODAY AT WORK,
WHILE I WAS
TRANSFERRING
SOMEONE'S CALL,
THEY SAID I HAD
A NICE VOICE.



EVERY NOW
AND THEN. I GET
PRANK CALLS
TOO, BUT THEN
THERE ARE ALSO
PEOPLE WHO
JUST WANT
SOMEONE TO
TALK TO. ONE
GIRL WAS EVEN
SEDUCED.



...I'VE
SURE GOT
IT GOOD.

gasp

LYDIA,
IT'S RINGING!
TRANSFER
IT!!

beeeep

beeeep

THEY'RE ONLY
ENGAGED. AND IT
SEEMS HE WAS
INJURED PRETTY
BADLY IN THE
WAR.

HMPH. IS SHE
BUSY NOW THAT
HER HUSBY IS
BACK?

AH... SORRY,
I WAS SPACING
OUT.

OH, IF
IT'S ONLY AN
ENGAGEMENT
THEY CAN JUST
ANNUL IT. THAT'D
BE THE SENSIBLE
THING TO DO.

HEY LYDIA... HOW
LONG DO YOU PLAN
TO GO ON SEEING
THEO?

click

Even in
town.

Orat
work...

Gossip.

Gossip.





WE COULDN'T
FINISH IT.

TOO
BAD.

SORRY, THEO.
I'LL READ THE
REST TO YOU
WHEN I GET
BACK.

TOMORROW
I'LL BE GOING
ON A TRIP FOR A
WHILE WITH THE
GIRLS FROM
WORK.

It was
while I was
reading
that book
that the
war came
to an end.



SOMEONE I
OFTEN SEE AT
THE LIBRARY
RECOMMENDED
IT TO ME.

I'M
LOOKING
FORWARD
TO IT.



I'LL BE
FINE.



I'M WORRIED
ABOUT LEAVING
YOU...

YOU HAVEN'T
RECOVERED FROM
THE COLD YOU GOT
THE OTHER DAY,
HAVE YOU?



HAVE
FUN OUT
THERE.



...ALRIGHT,
I SHOULD HEAD
OUT.



...LYDIA!



THAT
WAS SUCH
A FUN TRIP!

THANK YOU.

chatter

WE
NEED TO
STRETCH
OUR WINGS
EVERY
NOW AND
THEN.

TOMORROW
IT'S BACK TO
WORK AGAIN.
WHAT A
DRAG.



...SHOULD I
STOP BY THE
LIBRARY ON MY
WAY HOME?





going
back and
forth
from
work to
town.

Tomorrow
it's back
to work,
reading
to Theo,





OH MY.



...IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU. IT'S BEEN BUSY SINCE THE WAR ENDED AND YOU HAVEN'T BEEN COMING TO THE LIBRARY... I WAS WONDERING IF WE'D EVER MEET AGAIN.

IT'S ALREADY DARK. I'LL GIVE YOU A RIDE HOME.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING THESE DAYS, BRUNO?

AH... AFTER THE WAR ENDED, THE RESEARCH INSTITUTE WAS CLOSED DOWN.

RIGHT NOW I'M WORKING AT A PHARMACY.

I'M CONSULTING FROM HOME, BUT IT'S PRETTY FAR, SO I BOUGHT THIS MOTORBIKE SECOND HAND.





AH, HERE
IS FINE. I
CAN WALK
THE REST
OF THE
WAY.

I DON'T MIND
TAKING YOU ALL
THE WAY HOME.

WE CAN GET
SOMETHING
TO EAT. YOU
WORK AT THE
TELEPHONE
COMPANY,
RIGHT? I CAN
PICK YOU
UP...

LYDIA!
...WOULD
YOU LIKE TO
GO FOR A
RIDE NEXT
TIME?

IT'S ALL
RIGHT.
THANK
YOU.

WHAT DO
YOU DO?

I'M A
TELEPHONE
OPERATOR.

EVERY GIRL'S
DREAM JOB.

OH,
PLEASE.





I don't
know how
I got home
after that,

or how I
got to
work the
next day.

His cold
had
gotten
worse...



I didn't
know what
to feel.



HE'S...



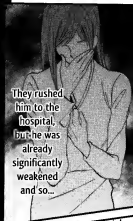


HE WAS
BURIED IN THE
SAME PLACE AS
MY HUSBAND, A
GRAVEYARD IN
A DIFFERENT
CITY.

I'VE
DECIDED TO
LEAVE THIS
TOWN, TOO...

I WAS
INTRODUCED TO
A LIVE-IN JOB,
TAKING CARE
OF CHILDREN.

THANK YOU
SO MUCH FOR
EVERYTHING,
LYDIA.



They rushed
him to the
hospital,
but he was
already
significantly
weakened
and so...



I couldn't
even go
to the
funeral
service.

that he
passed
away?

Why am I
relieved?





I have my
job. I can
go have
fun with
my friends
now.

I'D LIKE
YOU TO
COME
WITH ME.

HUH?

I can even
spend time
with this
man who
comes to
see me.

I don't
need to
read books
to him
anymore.

...I SEE.

But my
arms are
empty.

I WANT YOU
TO MARRY ME.



After
that, my
life was
smooth
sailing.

We had a happy
wedding. It
wasn't anything
fancy, but we
had a wonderful
honeymoon.



we were
blessed with
two children.

Living in
the city
with a
gentle
husband
who had a
stable job.



I clung
to him.

I ORDERED
THIS BOOKCASE
FOR YOU.

OH MY, IT'S
MAGNIFICENT.
WITH THIS
YOU'LL BE
ABLE TO BUY
BOOKS TO
YOUR HEART'S
CONTENT FOR
A WHILE.

LOOK, LYDIA!
THE BOOKCASE
I ORDERED IS
HERE.

BUT I HAVEN'T
REALLY SEEN YOU
READING SINCE WE
GOT MARRIED.

I THOUGHT YOU
WERE QUITE THE
BOOKWORM,

WHAT
I ACTUALLY
LIKE IS HAVING
SOMEONE READ
TO ME.

I NEVER
REALLY LIKED
READING THAT
MUCH TO BEGIN
WITH.

...



YOU'RE THE
OLDER BROTHER SO
PLEASE LOOK AFTER
FREDERICA.

DON'T DO
ANYTHING
DANGEROUS.
AND ABSOLUTELY
STAY AWAY
FROM THE DEEP
END OF THE
RIVER!

OKAAAAY!



WE RENT THIS
BUILDING TO LONG
TERM GUESTS.
THE BUILDING
NEXT TO IT IS AN
INSTITUTE FOR
THE ELDERLY AND
INJURED WAR
VETERANS.

IF YOU LIKE,
PLEASE COME AND
VISIT US. EVERYONE
WOULD BE HAPPY IF
THE PLACE WERE
LIVELIER.

YES,
CERTAINLY.



THEY WERE
RAISED IN THE
CITY, SO THEY
REALLY SEEM
TO ENJOY THE
CHANGE IN
SCENERY.

THANK YOU FOR
HAVING US. SINCE
IT COINCIDED WITH
SUMMER VACATION,
WE DECIDED TO
TAG ALONG WITH
MY HUSBAND'S
RESEARCH.



THEY'RE
FULL OF
ENERGY.



AHH, HELENA,
BRING THE SHEETS
OVER HERE.

THERE'S
SOMEONE HERE
WHO LOST HIS
EYESIGHT DURING
THE WAR. HE
PROPOSED THE
IDEA, SO NOW WE
HAVE STORYTELLING
SESSIONS 3
TIMES A WEEK.



TODAY YOU'RE
JUST IN TIME FOR
A STORYTELLING
SESSION.



OH,

I LOVE
LISTENING TO
STORIES.



OH, YOU TWO
KNOW EACH
OTHER? SHE'S
THE MOTHER OF
THE ONE WHO
PROPOSED THE
STORYTELLING
SESSIONS.



HELENA?!

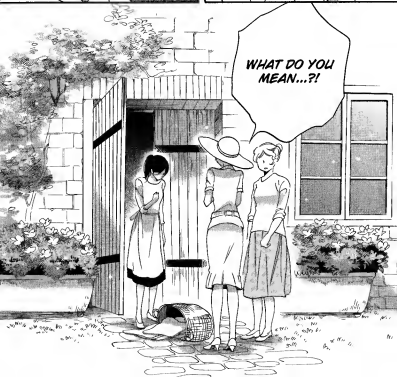
IT'S BEEN ABOUT 10
YEARS SINCE SHE MOVED
HERE WITH HER SON.
SHE'S WORKED VERY
HARD FOR US.



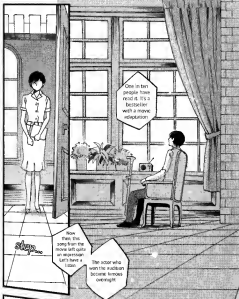
LYDIA!



WHAT DO
YOU MEAN,
MOVED HERE
WITH YOUR
SON?



WHAT DO YOU
MEAN...?!





...DO YOU



REMEMBER
HOW FAR WE'VE
READ IN THIS
BOOK?



...YES,

THANK YOU.



SHALL I
START FROM THE
BEGINNING?

...I'M NOT
SURE I'LL
DO A GOOD
JOB.

IT'S BEEN
10 YEARS
SINCE I SAT
DOWN AND
READ TO
SOMEONE.

I'M
SORRY,

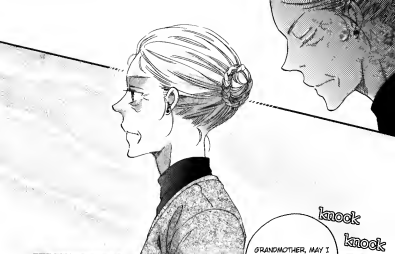
MY
VOICE IS
TREMBLING...

I'M SO
SORRY...



I'M
SORRY
AS WELL.

I LIKE
YOUR
VOICE, SO
I'M HAPPY
I GET TO
HEAR IT
AGAIN.



knock

knock

GRANDMOTHER, MAY I
BORROW A BOOK FROM
GRANDFATHER'S
STUDY?

open

YOU
REALLY ARE
A BOOKWORM,
AREN'T YOU?
JUST LIKE HIM.

OF COURSE
YOU CAN,
REGULUS.

BEFORE
HE PASSED
AWAY, I HEARD
FROM HIM THAT
YOU WERE GLITE
THE BOOKWORM
YOURSELF,
GRANDMOTHER.

I EVEN HEARD
THAT HE GOT
THIS BOOKCASE
AS A PRESENT
FOR YOU.





Both of
them.



IT WAS
JUST THAT
THE MAN I
LOVED WAS
VERY MUCH A
BOOKWORM.

ALTHOUGH
HE WENT
AHEAD AND
PASSED AWAY
BEFORE ME.



HAHA,
I NEVER
REALLY LIKED
READING MUCH
TO BEGIN
WITH.

WHAT I
LIKED WAS
HAVING
PEOPLE
READ TO
ME.



Lydia!

Lydia.



NOW THEN,
I'LL POUR
YOU SOME
TEA.

LET ME HEAR
YOUR PLANS
FOR SUMMER
VACATION,
REGULUS.

I'M BEING
FORCED TO GO
TO SUMMER CAMP
AGAINST MY
WILL.

OH MY,
THAT SOUNDS
LIKE FUN.

[The Story Time]

Fin



The Red World

Chapter 2



<http://rawdistro.net/>
#IRC-distro on irchighway.net

The Pigeon's
Wings



It was
as if he was
speaking to
the pigeons.



I told
him, "It's
like you and
the pigeons
understand
each other."



Or so
he said.

I DO
UNDERSTAND
THEM.

THEY'RE MY
FRIENDS.



YES, ALOIS.
YOUR CARRIER
PIGEONS ARE FAR
SUPERIOR. THEY'VE
WON COUNTLESS
RACES, HAVEN'T
THEY?

THE MILITARY
IS TRAINING
THEIR OWN, BUT
THEIRS DON'T
COME CLOSE TO
YOURS.



SO YOU'RE
GOING TO
MAKE THEM
INTO WAR
PIGEONS.



MY PIGEONS?

ON THE BATTLE-
FIELD, WIRELESS
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
EQUIPMENT BREAKS
DOWN FREQUENTLY. IN
THAT SITUATION WE
WANT PIGEONS WITH A
HIGH SUCCESS RATE
FOR MAKING
CONTACT.







THE
BATTLEFIELD IS
DANGEROUS.

I'LL GO.

THERE ARE
SOLDIERS WHO
TARGET WAR
PIGEONS, TOO.
AND THERE'S A
CHANCE YOU'LL
GET HIT BY A
GUN...



Fluke!
Luft!

THEN
I'M GOING
TOO.



ALONG,
IT'S DECIDED.
FLUKE AND I
ARE GOING.

IF WE LET
THE GIRLS
GO TO THE
BATTLEFIELD
FIRST, WE
CAN'T CALL
OURSELVES
MEN.



KRALL...

IN
THAT CASE,
I'LL GO.
I'M THE ACE,
AFTER ALL.

AND WE'RE THE
ONES WITH THE
MOST RACING
EXPERIENCE. WE
HAVE TO GO.

THEY WANT
FAST AND
RELIABLE
PIGEONS,



WHETHER
IT'S RACING
OR DELIVERING
MESSAGES, WE
CAN'T AVOID
AREAS WITH
THINGS THAT
ATTACK US.

THEY'RE
THE SAME.

WELL THE
RACES WEREN'T
EXACTLY SAFE,
EITHER.



LUFT,
THIS ISN'T
A RACE.

IT'S A
DANGEROUS
JOB.



WATCH
OUT FOR
FALCONS.

I'LL FLY LIKE
AN ARROW,
THE SAME AS
ALWAYS.



TAKE
GOOD CARE
OF THEM.



WELL,
THEN.

I'LL BE
TAKING THEM,
ALOIS.

COO

COO

That
was
the last
I ever
saw of
Luft.

THE PIGEONS
SHOULD RETURN
WITH A NOTE OR
SAMPLE ATTACHED
TO THEIR LEG. GIVE
THAT TO ME. AND
MAKE SURE NOT
TO LOOK AT THE
CONTENTS.

I'LL MAKE SURE
TO COME TO THE
PIGEON COOP
EVERY MORNING,
AFTERNOON AND
EVENING.

...

MY
PIGEON COOP
IS PRACTICALLY
A MILITARY
FACILITY.

MAKE SURE
YOU COME
BACK. I'LL BE
WAITING.



HE WAS FOUND
RIGHT WHERE YOU
SAID HE'D BE.

IT'S
BECAUSE
FLIKE
TOLD ME.



HE WAS
FLYING WITH
ME UP UNTIL
THAT POINT.



WHO'S HE
TALKING
TO?

WHERE
ARE LUFT'S
REMAINS?



WE LOCATED
LUFT IN A FIELD
A SHORT WAY
FROM HERE.



HIS
WINGS
AND THE
LEG WITH
HIS LEG
RING WERE
ALL THAT
WAS
LEFT...

THAT'S
HOW WE
IDENTIFIED
THE REMAINS
AS LUFT'S.



AFTER HE FELL,
IT LOOKED LIKE
HE'D BEEN EATEN
BY A BEAST OR
SOMETHING...



YOUR PIGEON
IS A HERO!



CARRIER PIGEONS'
HOMING INSTINCTS
ARE AMAZING.
THANKS TO FLUKE,
THE UNIT TRAPPED IN
ENEMY TERRITORY
WAS SAVED!

FLUKE WAS
THE ONLY ONE
WHO DELIVERED
HIS MESSAGE
AND RETURNED
ALIVE.

BUT LUFT
CAME REALLY
CLOSE! NOT
ONE OF THE
MILITARY'S
PIGEONS CAME
BACK...!



AN ENEMY
BULLET GRAZED
LUFT.



LUFT!

GO
ON AHEAD,
FLUIKE!



THERE'S ONLY
ONE PLACE WE'RE
AIMING FOR. WE'LL
DEFINITELY MEET
THERE IN THE END!

NOW GO!



I MIGHT BE
A FEW HOURS
LATE, BUT I'LL
DEFINITELY GET
BACK TO ALON'S
HOUSE, TOO.

Just a little
further and
you would have
made it back.



Luft...



IS THERE
ANY WAY YOU
COULD LEND
FLUIKE TO US
ONE MORE
TIME.



PLEASE,
WE NEED A
SUPERIOR
SET OF
WINGS.



KRALL...



I'LL
GO TOO,
THIS
TIME.



YOU'VE GOT
SOME NERVE,
ASKING THAT
RIGHT AFTER
REPORTING
LUFT'S
DEATH...!

WE'RE
PREPARING FOR
THE WORST-CASE
SCENARIO BY PUTTING
CARRIER PIGEONS ON
BOMBERS AND SHIPS.
WE DON'T HAVE
ENOUGH PIGEONS
THAT CAN FLY
ACCURATELY!



I'LL COME
STRAIGHT BACK
HERE TOGETHER
WITH FLUKE.

MY WINGS
ARE ALSO
STRONG.

LEAVE IT
TO ME.



HURRY, A LOT OF
INJURED SOLDIERS
WERE BROUGHT IN
FROM THE LAST
BATTLE.

IT'S NO USE,
FROM THE LAST THE RADIO'S BEEN HIT.
I'VE WRITTEN DOWN A
LIST OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES
WE NEED, ALONG WITH
INFORMATION ABOUT THE
TERRAIN AND PROGRESS OF
THE BATTLE. EVERYTHING
IS ON HERE, EVEN A
LIST OF ROADS THAT
CARS CAN'T PASS
THROUGH.



HOW IS IT,
CAN WE MAKE
CONTACT?!



THIS WAY,
KRALL!

ALL
RIGHT!



WE'RE
COUNTING
ON YOU!

FLAP





THERE, THERE.
GOOD GIRL.
FIND MORE
SHINY THINGS
TODAY, TOO.



53



IT SEEMS
THERE'VE
BEEN WORD
FALCONS TO
TEAR OUT
GRASS
PERSONS!

BE
CAREFUL,
KID!!



YOU REALLY
ARE FAST, FLORE.
KEEPING UP WITH
MOM IS PRETTY
TIRING!



W
O
O



H
S
O



AARGH

1130 PM

KORALL!

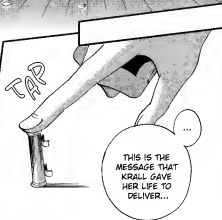
!!

STAGGER

THEY
HAVEN'T
COME BACK
YET...

IF POSSIBLE,
I HOPE THEY
DIDN'T NEED
TO BE USED

I HOPE THEY
COME BACK IN
THE BOY THEY
LEFT IN





...I'M
SORRY,
ALOIS. HOW
IS FLUIKE
DOING?

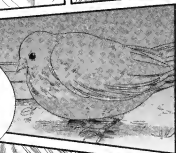


I'M GOING
TO CONTACT
HEADQUARTERS
RIGHT NOW!

...YOUR
PIGEONS
MIGHT SAVE
A LOT OF
PEOPLE ONCE
AGAIN!

APPARENTLY HE
WAS ATTACKED BY
A FALCON. HE
SUSTAINED ONLY
MINOR INJURIES,
THOUGH.

KRALL... SHE
CAME BACK WITH
HIM, BUT HER
WOUNDS WERE
SEVERE...



SHE DIED
RIGHT AFTER
SHE ARRIVED.



SHE
WAS GOOD AT
FLEEING FROM
FALCONS.

KRALL....

SHE WAS SMART.
SHE KNEW A TRICK
FOR ESCAPING AT
THE PRECISE MOMENT
THEY ATTACKS WITH
THEIR CLAWS.

IF SHE
HADN'T TAUGHT
ME THAT TRICK,
I DON'T THINK I
WOULD HAVE
MADE IT BACK
ALIVE.

...THERE
USED TO BE
SO MANY OF
US, BUT ONE
BY ONE WE
WERE TAKEN
AWAY.

NO,
OUT OF ALL
YOUR PIGEONS,
I'M THE ONLY
ONE LEFT.

LET'S
GIVE KRALL
A PROPER
BURIAL.





I'M
SORRY...
I...

IF THE
MILITARY HAS
THEIR EYES ON
YOU... NO.

I NEVER
SHOULD HAVE
HAD YOU ALL
RACE IN THE
FIRST PLACE.



YOU ALL
FLEW SO QUICKLY
AND BEAUTIFULLY.
I COULDN'T HELP
BUT WANT TO
SHOW YOU
OFF.

THIS IS ALL
BECAUSE OF MY
SELFISHNESS...



BUT IF YOU
REFUSE, WON'T
THAT PUT YOU IN
A DANGEROUS
POSITION?



I'M NOT
SENDING
YOU TO THE
BATTLEFIELD
ANYMORE.



WE'RE
RUNNING
AWAY.



YOU'RE
PACKING?
ARE YOU GOING
SOMEWHERE?





IF ONLY I HAD WINGS LIKE YOU. THEN I COULD GET THERE IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE.





PLEASE
HELP US!

HELLO!!
IS ANYONE
THERE!



Helloooooo...



THE
ROAD HAS
COLLAPSED.
THIS IS A
PROBLEM...

I WONDER IF
IT'S BECAUSE
OF THE HEAVY RAIN
FROM A FEW
DAYS BACK.



I THOUGHT
I HEARD
SOMEONE'S
VOICE COM-
ING FROM
BELOW...



EVERYONE IS
INJURED SO WE
CAN'T LEAVE!

THE ROAD
COLLAPSED AS
OUR TRUCK
WAS PASSING
THROUGH!

WHAT
HAPPENED
DOWN
THERE?!



WE'VE
JUST ABOUT
RUN OUT!



IN THAT CASE
I'LL LEAVE THIS
HERE. IT'S
ONLY A LITTLE,
BUT PLEASE
USE IT TO HOLD
OUT! I'M GOING
TO THROW IT!



A-ALL
RIGHT! DO
YOU HAVE
FOOD AND
WATER?



WE WERE
CARRYING
INJURED
SOLDIERS, AND
SOME OF THEM
HAVE ALREADY
DIED. I ASK
THAT YOU
HURRY!

THERE SHOULD
BE A VILLAGE A
WAYS BACK!
COULD YOU CALL
FOR HELP
THERE?



BE CAREFUL!
THE ROAD'S
UNSTEADY OVER
THERE, TOO!





THIS IS JUST
A TRUCK FOR
CARRYING INJURED
SOLDIERS. THERE'S
NOTHING ELSE.

YOU HAVE
NO MEANS OF
COMMUNICA-
TION?



I CAN
DO IT.

FLIKE...



IT TOOK
YOU DAYS
TO COME
THIS FAR.
I CAN
FLY IT IN
HOURS.



IF YOU NEED
A MEANS OF
COMMUNICATION,
THERE'S ONE
RIGHT HERE.



TRUST
ME, I'M A
VETERAN,
YOU KNOW.

AND I
DECIDED I
WASN'T GOING
TO USE YOU AS
A MESSENGER
ANYMORE.

...IT'S
DANGEROUS
OUT HERE. YOU
STILL HAVEN'T
FULLY RECOVER-
ED FROM YOUR
INJURIES,
EITHER...



BESIDES,
I WANT TO
SAVE YOU.

SO
DON'T WORRY
ABOUT
HOW YOU
PUT US IN
THOSE
RACES.

YOU
MIGHT BE
REMORSEFUL
ABOUT ALL
THAT'S HAPPEN-
ED, BUT WE
LOVE FLYING
IN THE SKY
MORE THAN
ANYTHING.

LET ME GO,
ALOIS.





IT'S
ALL RIGHT.
JUST HOLD ON,
EVERYONE.

STAY WITH US,
THEO. YOUR FIANCE
IS WAITING BACK
HOME ISN'T SHE?

DON'T YOU
DIE ON US.
HELP IS ON
THE WAY.



HEY, DON'T
MOVE, LAD.
YOUR WOUNDS
ARE GONNA
OPEN UP.



ALOIS!



WE HAVE...

A
MESSENGER.

FLUKE...
PLEASE BE
SAFE.



YOUR PIGEON
IS AMAZING.
IT FLEW OFF
WITHOUT A
MOMENT'S
HESITATION.



I just
have to fly
straight!



I know
the way.
I know
the way
to Alois's
house.









PLEASE
HURRY!

ALOIS AND
MANY OTHERS
ARE GOING
TO DIE!



GULP

YOU'RE
HURT...



I'LL
ARRANGE
FOR
ASSISTANCE
IMMEDIATELY.
YOU WAIT
RIGHT
THERE.

I'M GOING
TO CALL A
DOCTOR!

DASH

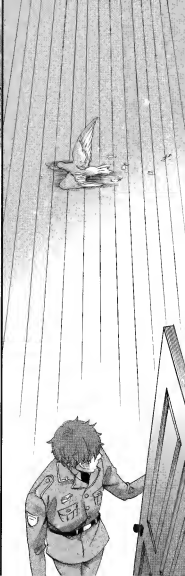
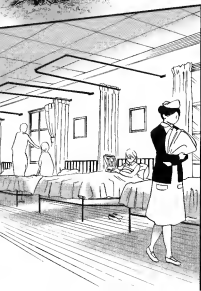
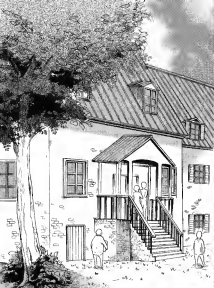


SHOCK

WHAT?!
ALOIS IS THERE,
TOO?!



...
OKAY.



HEY, ALOIS.
HOW ARE YOU
FEELING?

CONRAD!

I BROUGHT
SOMEONE TO
VISIT YOU.

Fluke

I'LL BE GOING
HOME TOMORROW.
WHEN I GET BACK
I'M HOPING TO
START A NEW
PIGEON COOP.

SOMEDAY
I'D LIKE TO
RAISE FLUKE'S
CHILDREN, TOO.

FLUKE!

WHEN WILL
YOU BE
DISCHARGED
FROM THE
HOSPITAL?

I WAS
WONDERING
WHICH OF YOU
WOULD RECOVER
FIRST. LOOKS
LIKE IT WAS
THIS GUY.



IT'S NOT
MY PLACE TO
SAY THIS, BUT...
I'M HAPPY YOU
ENJOY RAISING
PIGEONS AGAIN.

CAN YOU FLY,
FLUKE?

GRAB

THE
WAR IS OVER,
SO THEY WON'T
BE MADE INTO
WAR PIGEONS
ANYMORE.

I SEE. THEN
MAKE SURE TO
WATCH OUT FOR
FALCONS AND
CROWS.

CONRAD,
HE WON'T
NEED THE
CAGE TO
RETURN
HOME.

OF COURSE.
I CAN'T WAIT
TO GET BACK
TO THE SKY.



HE
REALLY
DOES FLY
STRAIGHT.



WHEN I
RELEASE HIM,
HE ONLY SEES
THE PATH TO
ONE PLACE.

SO
THERE'S
NO HESITA-
TION IN HIM.
THAT'S
WHAT HE
TOLD ME.





IT'S
BEAUTIFUL.

The Red World

Chapter 3

<http://www.distribro.net/>
BBC-distribro@ind.technique.net

RP: Yuuko-san
Translators: Oh_no & Yuuko-san
Proofreader: blueberry
Cleanser: fenrill
Typesetters: tim
Special thanks to glassy!



Flowers in the
Palm of My Hand



IT'S PRETTY
QUIET. I WONDER
IF THERE REALLY ARE
ANY STRAGGLERS
AROUND HERE.

THIS FOG IS
SO THICK. I CAN
BARELY SEE WHERE
I'M STEPPING.

HELL, THEY
SAY THERE ARE, BUT
WE'RE ALMOST AT THE
VILLAGE WHERE THE
TROOPS ARE APPARENTLY
GOING MISSING.



O-SOMETHING
BULLY... LOOK
CLOSER. IT'S
JUST A STONE
STATUE.



MARCUS!
THAT'S A
PERSON!!



THUD

OUCH!



A STATUE?
WHAT'S IT
DOING OUT
HERE?



WHAT?!



I JUST
STUMBLED
INTO A REALLY
BIG STONE...

...HEY, IT'S
NOT JUST
ONE.



WH... WHY
DID THEY MAKE
SUCH THINGS? THEY
CREEP ME OUT...

LOOK AROUND.
THESE FALLEN SOLDIERS
ARE ALL WEARING
OUR UNIFORM...





An enemy soldier...? No, it's a girl!!



IT'S
OVER.



Y... YOUR
COUNTRY
ANNOUNCED
ITS DEFEAT
YESTERDAY.
SURRENDER
NOW.



I SEE.



WELL, SHE
LOOKS LIKE AN
ORDINARY GIRL
TO ME.





IT'S UNBELIEVABLE. I SAW IT WITH MY OWN EYES!!

SO, WHATEVER SHE TOUCHES TURNS TO STONE?

IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE?

I WATCHED AS SOMEONE TURNED TO STONE BEFORE MY VERY EYES... WHEN I THINK ABOUT HOW ALL THOSE FALLEN STONE STATUES USED TO BE LIVING PEOPLE, I GET THE CHILLS.

OH, SO THAT'S WHY ALL THOSE TRUCKS WERE BRINGING IN THOSE STONES. BUT IT STILL SEEMS IMPLAUSIBLE.

YEAH, ONCE ALL THE POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION IS FINISHED, SHE'LL PROBABLY BE TAKEN TO SOME PLACE MORE APPROPRIATE.

LUCKILY, THIS IS A GHOST TOWN, SO THERE WON'T BE ANY WEIRD RUMORS FLOATING AROUND.

HOW ARE THEY GOING TO DEAL WITH THE GIRL? WHAT DID THE HIGH-UPS SAY?

I ENDED UP BEING HER SURVIVAL-LANCE DETAIL, BUT SINCE IT CREEPS ME OUT I DON'T WANT TO STAY UNDER THE SAME ROOF AS HER LONGER THAN I HAVE TO.



SO, NINA, IS
IT TRUE THAT
ANYTHING YOU
TOUCH TURNS
COMPLETELY
TO STONE?

ANY PERSON
I TOUCH WITH
MY PALM TURNS.
NOTHING HAPPENS
TO ANYTHING THAT
IS NOT HUMAN.



WHAT'S
YOUR NAME?



NINA.



JUST
AS YOU SAW
RIGHT IN FRONT
OF YOU.

EVENTUALLY
MY POWER GREW,
TO THE POINT THAT
NOW, I CAN TURN
ANYONE I TOUCH
TO STONE IMMEDI-
ATELY...

NO, IT
MANIFESTED
OVER TIME.

AT FIRST,
ONLY THE AREA I
TOUCHED TURNED
TO STONE.

...WERE
YOU BORN
WITH THAT...
THAT...
POWER?

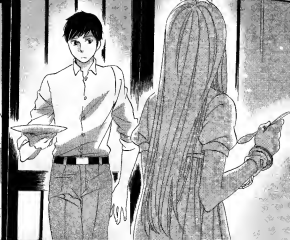


HERE'S
YOUR MEAL.

click









my mother.



NO, I
TURNED
THEM ALL TO
STONE.

DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY?

NOT ANYMORE.

OH... BECAUSE OF THE WAR,

DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY?

NOT ANYMORE.

OH... BECAUSE OF THE WAR,

DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY?

NOT ANYMORE.

OH... BECAUSE OF THE WAR,

While we were out shopping and having lunch.

Her right arm which had been turned into stone was cut off.

At the time, I didn't know what was going on.

While we were out shopping and having lunch.

Her right arm which had been turned into stone was cut off.

At the time, I didn't know what was going on.



While we were out shopping and having lunch.

Her right arm which had been turned into stone was cut off.

At the time, I didn't know what was going on.

From there,
I was taken
away by the
military.



After my
entire family
turned to stone,
the people finally
concluded that it
had something to
do with me.

AND THEN...



THERE ARE
OTHERS!!

THE
MILITARY HAD
BEEN GATHERING
PEOPLE WITH THE
SAME POWER
AS ME.



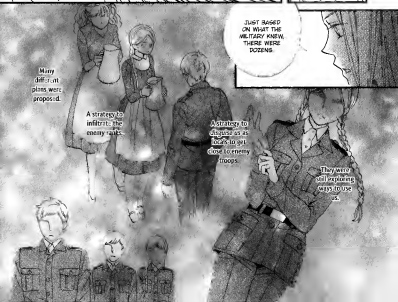
JUST BASED
ON WHAT THE
MILITARY KNEW,
THERE WERE
DOZENS.

Many
different
plans were
proposed.

A strategy to
infiltrate the
enemy ranks.

A strategy to
disguise as a
troop to get
close to enemy
troops.

They were
still exploring
ways to use
us.





WE WERE TOLD
THAT EVEN IF WE
WENT BACK INTO
SOCIETY, WE WOULD
ONLY BE FEARED AND
THAT WE ONLY HAD
A PLACE IN THE
MILITARY.

AT FIRST,
SOME AMONGST
US RETALIATED AND
TRIED TO ESCAPE,
BUT EACH TIME,
THEY WERE KILLED
WITHOUT MERCY.

...



BECAUSE WE
WERE FEARED BY
PEOPLE AROUND
US FOR HAVING
THIS POWER,

EVEN IF WE
HID IT, WE WOULD
BE NOTICED AND
THERE WERE EVEN
PEOPLE WHO WERE
DRAINED INTO
THE MILITARY...



I'M SORRY, I
KNOW THIS WASN'T
AN APPROPRIATE
TOPIC DURING A
MEAL... EVEN THE
SOUP YOU MADE IS
ALL COLD NOW.





WOW!
HOW ABOUT
WE GO FOR A
WALK RIGHT
NOW?

WHAT?



THE WEATHER'S
REALLY NICE

YES, IT IS.



WE'RE JUST
GOING FOR A
WALK.

YOU'RE UNARMED
AND WEARING HAND-
CUFFS AND I HAVE
A GUN SO THERE'S
NO PROBLEM.

ARE YOU
SURE ABOUT
THIS?



YOU'LL TURN TO
STONE AND DIE.

JUST BY TAKING
OFF THESE GLOVES
AND GRABBING
YOUR ARM.

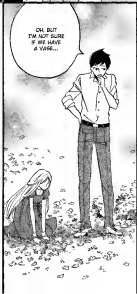
I MIGHT TRY
TO ESCAPE.

EVEN IF YOU DID
SUCH A THING, IT
WOULDN'T BENEFIT
YOU RIGHT NOW.

IF YOU
WERE GOING
TO DO THAT,
YOU WOULD
HAVE DONE IT
ALREADY.

LET'S GO,
BEFORE THE
SUN SETS.

NOW'S THE
BEST TIME
TO SEE THE
FLOWER
FIELDS.







AS EXPECTED,
THAT WAS NERVE-
WRACKING.



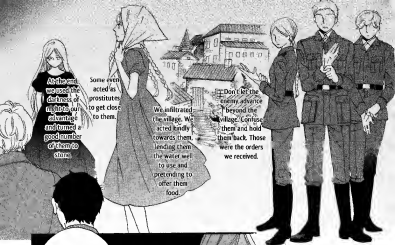
AREN'T YOU
SCARED?

WHAT IF...
WHAT IF I...

I'M NOT SCARED.







At the end,
we used the
darkness of
night as our
advantage
and turned a
good number
of them to
stone.

Some even
acted as
prostitutes
to get close
to them.

We infiltrated
the village. We
acted kindly
towards them,
lending them
the water well
to use and
pretending to
offer them
food.

Don't let the
enemy advance
beyond the
village. Confuse
them and hold
them back. Those
were the orders
we received.

One wrong step
and I might have
turned you into
stone, Marcus.

ALL OF THE
COMRADES I
WORKED WITH
HAD DIED.

I WAS
THE ONLY SUR-
VIVOR LEFT AT
THAT PLACE.



BUT NO
MATTER
WHICH WAY
YOU LOOK
AT IT, I...

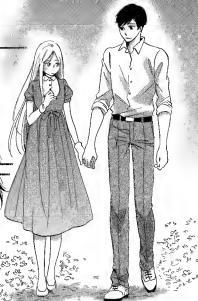
THE THINGS
I'VE DONE...

...FLOWERS
ARE SO
LUCKY.



...I WONDER
HOW LONG IT'S BEEN
SINCE I HELD HANDS
WITH SOMEONE.

EVEN IF I WERE
WEARING MY GLOVES
NO ONE WOULD HAVE
DAIED TO HOLD
MY HAND.



IT'S
A WARM
HAND.

HM?

UM...

DO YOU MIND IF
I MAKE DINNER
TONIGHT?









IT'S NOT A TRIAL.
YOU'RE GOING TO A
RESEARCH FACILITY.

I WONDER
IF I'LL BE PUT
ON TRIAL.



...YOUR
TRANSFER
HAS BEEN
FINALIZED.



SUPPOSEDLY, THEIR GOAL
IS TO SOMEHOW DISCOVER
THE ORIGIN OF THAT POWER
AND RESEARCH A WAY TO
SUPPRESS OR PROTECT
AGAINST IT.

APPARENTLY THERE
ARE PEOPLE WITH THE
SAME POWER IN THIS
COUNTRY, TOO.



.. SO IT'S
TOMORROW.

I UNDERSTAND.



WH... WHAT.



THIS IS DANGEROUS!
I DON'T EVEN HAVE MY GLOVES ON YET...!!



WHY DON'T WE RUN AWAY TOGETHER?



ON THE SURFACE,
THEY MIGHT SAY THEY
WANT TO HELP PEOPLE,
BUT WHO KNOWS WHAT
THEY'LL ACTUALLY USE
YOUR POWER FOR!

WHY NOT!! NINA,
IF YOU GO TO THAT
RESEARCH FACILITY,
YOU'LL BE IMPRISONED
AND GO BACK
TO A LIFE WITHOUT
FREEDOM.

THANK
YOU... BUT
I CAN'T.

BESIDES, YOU'RE
TREATED AS A
CAPTIVE!!

IF I TRIED TO
ESCAPE, YOU WON'T
BE FREE EITHER,
MARCUS.

I'VE WATCHED
MANY PEOPLE DIE
WITHOUT BEING ABLE
TO HOLD THOSE THEY
LOVE AND GET USED
BY THE MILITARY
BECAUSE OF THIS
POWER.

ANY
CHANCE
AT ALL...

IF...

IF THERE'S
A CHANCE
THEY CAN
DO SOMETHING
ABOUT THIS... THIS
POWER...



I DON'T
WANT TO
LET YOU
GO.



I LOVE YOU.



THANK YOU.
I LOVE YOU
TOO.



OR...
IF I CAN
ACCOMPLISH
ANYTHING.



BUT I HAVE TO.

WATCH OVER ME.
WHAT HAPPENS TO
ME AFTER THIS.



I'LL NEVER
FORGET THE
WARMTH IN
YOUR HANDS.



NINA! SORRY
I'M LATE!

YOU'RE
PAYING FOR
THE COFFEE AND
ANYTHING ELSE I
HAD, MILAN.

OKAY,
OKAY.

HOW MUCH
DID YOU EAT
IN THE 30
MINUTES I
KEPT YOU
WAITING?

WHEEZE

RAVE

AHA,
THAT'S RIGHT,
YOU HAVE A
SERIOUS CONDI-
TION, RIGHT,
NINA?

I CAN LIVE A
NORMAL LIFE
JUST BY TAKING
ONE OF THESE A
DAY. IT'S NOT A
PROBLEM.

AND THIS
ONE DOESN'T
HAVE ANY SIDE
EFFECTS ANY-
MORE.

OH, WAIT. I
NEED TO TAKE
MY MEDICINE.

IS THANKS TO
YOUR GRAND-
MOTHER.

SO THE
REASON WE
CAN BE LIKE
THIS

YEAH, I
DON'T KNOW
IF IT'S ACTUALLY
HEREDITARY
OR NOT.

YOUR
GRANDMOTHER
WITH THE SAME
NAME AS YOU HAD
THE SAME POWER,
RIGHT?

MY GRANDMOTHER
AND SOME OTHERS
WORKED WITH
RESEARCHERS A
LONG TIME AGO, AND
BECAUSE OF THAT,
THEY WERE ABLE TO
DEVELOP A MEDICINE
THAT SUPPRESSED
THE POWER.

THAT'S RIGHT.

APPARENTLY MY
GRANDMOTHER AND
GRANDFATHER HAD
A LONG-DISTANCE
RELATIONSHIP TYPE OF
THING, BUT THEY PUT
IN A LOT OF EFFORT
TO MAKE IT WORK.

OH, THAT'S
RIGHT. REGULUS
SAID HE'D BE SPEND-
ING THE NEW YEAR'S
HOLIDAY HERE.

I WAS
THINKING WE
COULD THROW
A PARTY.

ANYWAY, YOU
SAID YOU HAD
SOMETHING TO
TELL ME?

YEP, HE'S REALLY
SMART, AND HE'S
USUALLY BUSY WITH
SCHOOL, BUT IT
LOOKS LIKE HE WAS
ABLE TO MAKE SOME
TIME THIS YEAR.

REGULUS, YOU
MEAN THE GUY
YOU SAID WAS
YOUR CHILD-
HOOD FRIEND,
MILANT?

CAFE



A close-up of a young man and woman. The woman, on the left, has long, light-colored hair and is wearing a light-colored jacket over a dark top. She is looking towards the man with a slight smile. The man, on the right, has short, light-colored hair and is wearing a dark sweater over a collared shirt and tie. He is looking at the woman with a slight smile. A speech bubble from the woman is on the left, and a speech bubble from the man is on the right.

IF HE'S SO
PROMISING, MAYBE
I'LL FALL FOR HIM
INSTEAD.

I CAN FINALLY
INTRODUCE YOU
TO HIM, NINA.



A wide shot of the young man and woman walking down a street. The man is wearing a dark sweater and jeans, and the woman is wearing a light-colored top and a dark skirt. They are walking away from the viewer. In the background, there are trees, a building, and two other people walking. A speech bubble from the woman is on the right, and a speech bubble from the man is on the left.

WHAAAT?!

JUST KIDDING.



WHAT,
REALLY?
ARE YOU
SURE?

HELLO.
AHH, MIKAN.
I WAS JUST
PACKING.

IT LOOKS LIKE
I'M GOING TO HAVE
A LOT OF LUGGAGE,
SO COULD YOU COME
TO THE STATION TO
PICK ME UP?

YEAH, I'M GETTING
ON THE FIVE O'CLOCK
TRAIN TOMORROW,
SO IT'LL PROBABLY
BE NIGHT BY THE
TIME I ARRIVE.

Until Next Time



OH,
GRRRY.

NO, IT'S NOTHING.
AN INJURED PIGEON
WANDERED IN HERE THIS
MORNING. I'VE JUST
BEEN TAKING CARE OF
IT AT HOME.

SORRY
TO MAKE THE
BRIDEGROOM
DRIVE ALL THE WAY
OUT HERE... I SEE.
OKAY, I GUESS IT'S
MORE TROUBLE
FOR THE BRIDE.

SHIT
FLY

flap

HE WAS WEARING
SOMETHING LIKE A
LEG RING. WHEN I
CHECKED IT, I FOUND
A CONTACT ADDRESS
ON IT. SO THEN I
CALLED THE NUMBER
AND REACHED THE
OWNER.

APPARENTLY
HIS NAME IS FLUKE.
I THOUGHT HE WAS
JUST A STRAY PIGEON,
BUT APPARENTLY HE'S
A RACING PIGEON. HE'S
SUPPOSEDLY WON COUNT-
LESS TIMES, AND THE
GRANDFATHER WAS
EVEN BETTER.

YEAH,
APPARENTLY
THE OWNER'S HOME
USED TO BE A PIGEON
COOP WHERE HE RAISED
RACING PIGEONS. AND
THIS PIGEON IS RELATED
TO THE FIRST-GENERATION
FLUKE... YEAH, HE
REBAPTIZED THE NAME
"FLUKE" TOO.

HEH. WELL,
THIS FLUKE SEEMS
LIKE HE'S A BIT OF A
KLUTZ. IT DOESN'T
LOOK LIKE A SERIOUS
INJURY, SO I'M PLANNING
ON GIVING HIM BACK
TO HIS OWNER BEFORE
I GET ON THE TRAIN
TOMORROW.

YEAH. WELL, I'M
LOOKING FORWARD
TO THE CEREMONY
TOMORROW. TELL NINA
I SAID HELLO.

GOOD NIGHT.

Special Thanks
M.M. and you!

I am happy if you enjoyed
even just 1 of these 9
stories. Thank you very
much

Wish 

The Red World

Chapter 4

<http://www.dlistro.net/>
RSC-distro@inc.1netlightway.net

RP: Yuuko-san
Translator: Yuuko-san
Proofreader: blueberry
Closer: fear11
Typesetter: Asuna-chan
QC: tim & glassy

